

"There is an ancient and fundamental idea, the idea of Community" - Dee Hock

Context

The First 5 Placer Children and Family Commission (CFC) is an autonomous self-governing Commission appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The primary purpose of the Commission is to develop and implement a strategic plan for the use of Proposition 10 funds for early childhood development for children 0-5 and their families. Specifically, the statutory role is outlined as follows:

- Involve the community in developing a strategic plan for children 0-5 and their families;
- Implement the plan and administer the Children and Families Trust Fund;
- Evaluate the plan annually and revise it in response to the changing needs of the community.

In order to fully represent the community, the Commission desires to involve people from the community, who are not on the Commission or staff to the Commission, in decision-making processes. This Charter (i.e., roles and responsibilities) for the Community Resource Committee was approved by the Commission with the understanding that the Commission may choose to delegate some of its work in an effort to meaningfully involve the community but it cannot delegate its ultimate authority or responsibility.

The legislation enacting Proposition 10 lists several categories of representation to be involved in local commissions. These categories also serve as guidelines for people to serve in advisory roles, the categories are:

- Recipients of project services included in the CFC strategic plan;
- Educators specializing in early childhood development;
- Representatives of local child care resource or referral agencies;
- Representatives of local child care coordinating groups;
- Representatives of local organizations for the prevention or early intervention for families at risk;
- Representatives of Community-based organizations that have the goal of promoting nurturing and early childhood development;
- Representatives of local school districts; and
- Representatives of local medical, pediatric or obstetric associations or societies.

Overall Role of the CFC Community Resource Committee:

*"The **partnership** is comprised of all communities, neighborhoods, employers, faith communities, resources, programs, families, professionals, volunteers, children, and people – EVERYONE – in Placer County" – CFC Strategic Plan*

In order to meaningfully involve the community in the work of the Commission, the Community Resource Committee is created. The Community Resource Committee is a nine-member

committee comprised of three members of the First 5 Placer Children and Families Commission and six members appointed by the Commission from the community. The Committee is created to provide a consistent community contact for First 5 staff. The First 5 Partner Network and community members, and to exercise delegated decision-making authority. The goal is that through an inclusive, empowered Community Resource Committee, the Children and Families Commission (CFC), and the early childhood development community will have several on-going sustainable ways to:

- Incorporate community voices in planning, evaluating and allocating First 5 funds;
- Provide a vehicle for reporting to the community;
- Provide timely interaction and advice on statewide funding initiatives;
- Broadly and publicly spread the "brain development" message;
- Provide an open community forum for feedback on the work of the CFC.

The Commission commits to using this Committee as a focal point for dealing with issues and opportunities presented by the implementation of the Children and Families Act in Placer County, particularly the implementation of the CFC Strategic Plan.

This Committee will work at the community level to build a community partnership with the CFC and assist in implementing day-to-day activities of the Commission as delegated by the Commission. The Committee will function as a resource for the Commission between its regularly scheduled meetings and provide guidance and support for the staff assigned to the Commission through its Memorandum of Understanding with the Placer County Department of Health and Human Services. In carrying out its duties, the Committee will abide by the "strategic principles" of inclusiveness in the CFC Strategic Plan. Also, the Committee will protect the "all children" aspect of Proposition 10 to embrace strength-based approaches while serving children with special needs and at-risk youth.

The Commission will support the Committee by providing resources (e.g. money, time, human resources, and authority) necessary to fulfill its responsibilities. Members of the Community Resource Committee shall be reimbursed the actual amounts of their reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in performing their duties under this Charter such as attending meetings, training and conferences (including reimbursement for travel, meals, child care, registrations, lodging, materials and supplies) in accordance with the County of Placer Travel Policy.

Specific Community Resource Committee Responsibilities:

The following are the areas of responsibility and participation that is desired of the Committee by the First 5 Placer Children and Families Commission. The Commission may delegate additional responsibilities as the need arises.

Assessment and Evaluation of Results:

- Participate in community needs assessments having to do with children prenatal through five years of age and their families.
- Assist in convening the community to evaluate the First 5 Placer Strategic Plan to determine in what ways children 0-5 and their families are better off as a result of Proposition 10 in Placer County.
- Support the Commission's efforts to analyze outcome data and learn from it. To disseminate information back to First 5 Placer Partner Network and the community; organize training to further the community capacity needed to provide results-oriented services, and the real time feedback loops inherent in that model.

- Assist staff and Commissioners to develop venues that involve parents and non-agency partners in giving feedback on First 5 Placer activities.
- Assist in the development of the annual county report to the state.

Allocation of Funding:

- Work with the Commission, its advisory groups and staff to develop ways to invest funds in inclusive, collaborative ways that are results-oriented and inclusive of the provider and consumer community.
- Review funding applications for \$5,000 or under and make recommendations to the Commission.
- Review funding initiatives developed by the State CFC for their appropriateness to Placer County and make recommendations to the CFC on the implementation of the initiatives.

Communications and Public Relations:

- Represent the local CFC at State CFC meetings and help with information dissemination.
- Participate in the development of local public education and outreach campaigns.
- Review early childhood development materials received by the local CFC and provide advice on the distribution of those materials.
- Create and support linkages between the CFC and its advisory committees. The current advisory committees are: Community Collaborative of Tahoe Truckee, Local Child Care Planning Council, and the Placer Collaborative Network. In addition to these advisory committees, support will be given to the committee that distributes the Kits for New Parents on behalf of the CFC.
- Assist with the organization of the annual CFC Partner Network Outcome Faire.



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